

David A. Parr
Chairman of the Board
Chief Executive Officer

April 2, 2003

The Hon. Kathleen Abernathy
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington DC 20554

Re: 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review --
Review of the Commissions Broadcast Ownership Rules
(MB Docket No. 02-277)

Dear Commissioner Abernathy:

I know that we haven't met in person recently, as you have with Richard W. Decherd, Chairman and CEO of BELO corporation. I know that I don't have the lawyers and financial backing of CBS/Viacom, NBC, Disney/ABC, Fox, ClearChannel, or any of the other handful of elites who control the media today. I know that I don't have lobbyists knocking down your door to persuade (and enrich?) you to agree with their demands for opening broadcast ownership restrictions.

I've read all of the statements on the FCC websites from my fellow Austinites, and I've also read a number of statements from the major media corporations. My fellow Austinites agree, completely, 24 - 0, that removing media ownership restrictions is a BAD THING. Some even call for more restrictions to help selfguard free speech and equal access to the media.

Without question, large corporations want these laws repealed. ABC, with it's 10 stations, wants to expand. To control more of the market. To solidify it's programming and message. The other's want that too -- if there's a new pie to be split, everyone wants a share.

How is this good for the people of Austin? Limiting the voice of Americans, restricting media coverage, raising advertising prices unfairly -- all of this benefits a select few at the cost to the majority. I wholeheartedly oppose reducing or eliminating any restrictions on media ownership, and second the suggestion, as one other Austinite proposed, that media ownership be limited to one newspaper, tv or radio station per person or corporation.

It seems to me that if a person has one voice, they should have one and only one outlet as well.

Do not remove or reduce media ownership restrictions.

Thank you for your considerations on this action.

David Parr